

SOUTH CAROLINA LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION



**Contact: Kathryn Richardson
Office: (803) 896-7013**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 27, 2005

On Monday, June 27, 2005, SLED agents arrested and charged the former St. George, S.C. Clerk/Treasurer with **Embezzlement of Public Funds, Breach of Trust with Fraudulent Intent Over \$5,000 and Misconduct of a Public Officer.**

Christi Arroyo, of St. George, S.C., was arrested at approximately 2:00 p.m. and booked at the Dorchester County Sheriff's Office. The arrest is a result of an investigation conducted by SLED. The case will be prosecuted by the Ninth Circuit Solicitor's Office.

***Warrants Attached**

ARREST WARRANT

H- 898215

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of
DORCHESTER

THE STATE

against

ARROYO, CHRISTI

 Address: 503 JOHNSTON ST.
ST. GEORGE SC 29477-0000

Phone: _____ SSN: _____

Sex: _____ Race: _____ Height: _____ Weight: 000

DL State: SC DL #: _____

DOB: _____ Agency ORI#: _____

Prosecuting Agency: _____

Prosecuting Officer: _____

Offense: EMBEZZLEMENT OF PUBLIC FUN

DS Offense Code: _____

Code/Ordinance Sec. 16-13-210

This warrant is CERTIFIED FOR SERVICE in the

☐ County/ ☐ Municipality of

 The accused
is to be arrested and brought before me to be
dealt with according to law.

 _____ (L.S.)
Signature of Judge

Date: _____

RETURN

A copy of this arrest warrant was delivered to

defendant CHRISTY ARROYOon 6/27/05

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)

☐ County/ ☐ Municipality of
DORCHESTER)

AFFIDAVIT

 Form Approved by
S.C. Attorney General
April 21, 2000
SCDA 618

 Personally appeared before me the affiant TRIF-MYERS, AMY who
being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant ARROYO, CHRISTI
did within this county and state on between 8/01/2001 and 9-04 violate the criminal laws of the
State of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☐ County/ ☐ Municipality of _____)
in the following particulars: **VIOLATION SECTION 16-13-210 OF SC CODE OF LAWS**
DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: EMBEZZLEMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS

 I further state that there is probable cause to believe that the defendant named above did commit
the crime set forth and that probable cause is based on the following facts:

SEE ATTACHED

 ALL OF WHICH IS AGAINST THE PEACE AND DIGNITY OF THE STATE
OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND WILL BE MORE FULLY DESCRIBED IN THE 1976
CODE OF LAW. Signature of Affiant Amy Trif-Myers

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)

☐ County/ ☐ Municipality of
DORCHESTER)

 Affiant's Address 6345 MAIN ST SUITE A
N. CHARLESTON SC 29477-0000

 Affiant's Telephone (843) 569-7593

ARREST WARRANT

TO ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THIS STATE OR MUNICIPALITY OR ANY CONSTABLE OF THIS COUNTY:

 It appearing from the above affidavit that there are reasonable grounds to believe that
on between 8/01/2001 and 9-04 defendant ARROYO, CHRISTI
did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of _____) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: VIOLATION SECTION 16-13-210 OF SC CODE OF LAWS
EMBEZZLEMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS

 Having found probable cause and the above affiant having sworn before me, you are empowered and directed to arrest the said
defendant and bring him or her before me forthwith to be dealt with according to law. A copy of this Arrest Warrant shall be delivered to
the defendant at the time of its execution, or as soon thereafter as is practicable.

 Sworn to and subscribed before me
on 6-27-05)

 _____ (L.S.)
Signature of Issuing Judge

Judge Code: _____

 Judge's Address 212 Deming Way, Box 10
Summerville SC 29485-0000

 Judge's Telephone (843) 832-0370

 Issuing Court: ☐ Magistrate ☐ Municipal ☐ Circuit

ORIGINAL

007

SLED LOW COUNTRY

06/27/05 MON 16:07 FAX 8437973862

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF DORCHESTER

AFFIDAVIT

SLED Case # 31040085

Personally appeared before me, a magistrate of this County, one S/A Amy Tripp-Myers (SLED) who, first
being duly sworn, deposes and says that,

CHRISTI U. ARROYO

did within this County and State on or about August 2001 thru September 2004, did violate the criminal laws
of the State of South Carolina in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE

EMBEZZLEMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS

16-13-210

The affiant states there is probable cause to believe that the defendant named above did commit the
crime(s) set forth, and that such probable cause is based on the following facts:

That during the years of 2001 thru 2004, while in the County of Dorchester, State of South
Carolina the aforesaid defendant, CHRISTI ARROYO, did commit the offense of
EMBEZZLEMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS, in violation of section 16-13-210 of the South
Carolina Code of Laws of 1976, as amended. In that while the defendant was the clerk/treasurer
for the Town of St. George, and as such was charged with the safekeeping, transfer, or
disbursement of public funds, the defendant did convert public funds to her personal use in the
following particulars:

1. Arroyo fraudulently opened a credit card account with Bank One, in the name of the
Town of St. George in the year 2001. During her employment, Arroyo maintained
possession of the three cards that were issued on the account, and made personal charges
onto this account. During the monthly billing cycles of Bank One for payments due,
Arroyo would draft checks from banking accounts belonging to the Town of St. George
for payments onto the Bank One account. Arroyo was also found to have made electronic
transfers of funds from banking accounts belonging to the Town of St. George for
payments onto the Bank One account.
2. Arroyo charged merchandise at a local Lowes home improvement store and at a local
Home Depot home improvement store. These charges correspond to the time frame in
which Arroyo was completing home renovations to her home, located at 503 Johnston
St., St. George, South Carolina. Further, inspection of these invoices show that the items
purchased were delivered to her home address. Interviews conducted with the contractor
hired by Arroyo to complete the renovations, support the evidence that these items were
fraudulently purchased. The investigation has shown these charge accounts were paid for
with funds from the Town of St. George.
3. Investigative efforts revealed that Arroyo used two different banking accounts, which
belonged to the Town of St. George, to make payments of the above referenced charges.
Those accounts being a Town of St. George operating account and an account for the
Water and Sewer department.

ARREST WARRANT

H- 898216

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of
DORCHESTER

 THE STATE
against

ARROYO, CHRISTI

 Address: 503 JOHNSTON ST.
ST. GEORGE SC 29477-0000

 Phone: _____ SSN: _____
Sex: _____ Race: _____ Height: _____ Weight: 000
DL State: SC DL #: _____
DOB: _____ Agency ORI#: SLED

 Prosecuting Agency: SLED
Prosecuting Officer: TRIPP-MYERS, AMY, SL
Offense: BREACH OF TRUST WITH FRAUD
ULENT INTENT - over 5000.00
Code/Ordinance Sec. 16-13-230

 This warrant is CERTIFIED FOR SERVICE in the
☐ County/ ☐ Municipality of _____
The accused
is to be arrested and brought before me to be
dealt with according to law.

 _____ (L.S.)
Signature of Judge

Date: _____

RETURN

 A copy of this arrest warrant was delivered to
defendant CHRISTI ARROYO
on 6/27/05

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

 STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
☐ County/ ☐ Municipality of)
DORCHESTER)

AFFIDAVIT

 Form Approved by
S.C. Attorney General
April 21, 2003
SCCA 618

 Personally appeared before me the affiant TRIPP-MYERS, AMY, SLED who
being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant ARROYO, CHRISTI
did within this county and state on between 8/01/2001 and 9-04 violate the criminal laws of the
State of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☐ County/ ☐ Municipality of _____)
in the following particulars: VIOLATION SECTION 16-13-230 OF SC CODE OF LAWS
DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: BREACH OF TRUST WITH FRAUDULENT INTENT over 5000.00

 I further state that there is probable cause to believe that the defendant named above did commit
the crime set forth and that probable cause is based on the following facts:

SEE ATTACHED AFFIDAVIT

 ALL OF WHICH IS AGAINST THE PEACE AND DIGNITY OF THE STATE
OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND WILL BE MORE FULLY DESCRIBED IN THE 1976
CODE OF LAW. Signature of Affiant Amy Tripp-Myers

 STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
☐ County/ ☐ Municipality of)
DORCHESTER)

 Affiant's Address: 6435 Fair St., Suite A
N. Charleston, SC 29406
Affiant's Telephone: 843-569-7593

ARREST WARRANT

TO ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THIS STATE OR MUNICIPALITY OR ANY CONSTABLE OF THIS COUNTY:

 appearing from the above affidavit that there are reasonable grounds to believe that
on between 8/01/2001 and 9-04 defendant ARROYO, CHRISTI
did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of _____) as set forth below:

 DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: VIOLATION SECTION 16-13-230 OF SC CODE OF LAWS
BREACH OF TRUST WITH FRAUDULENT INTENT
over 5000.00

 Having found probable cause and the above affiant having sworn before me, you are empowered and directed to arrest the said
defendant and bring him or her before me forthwith to be dealt with according to law. A copy of this Arrest Warrant shall be delivered to
the defendant at the time of its execution, or as soon thereafter as is practicable.

 Sworn to and subscribed before me)
on 6-27-05)

Signature of Issuing Judge (L.S.)
Judge Code: _____

 Judge's Address: 212 Deming Way, Box 10
Summerville SC 29483-0000

 Judge's Telephone: (843) 832-0370

 Issuing Court: ☒ Magistrate ☐ Municipal ☐ Circuit

ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF DORCHESTER

AFFIDAVIT

SLED Case # 31040085

Personally appeared before me, a magistrate of this County, one S/A Amy Tripp-Myers (SLED) who, first being duly sworn, deposes and says that,

CHRISTI U. ARROYO

did within this County and State on or about August 2001 thru September 2004, did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE

BREACH OF TRUST OVER \$5,000

16-13-230

The affiant states there is probable cause to believe that the defendant named above did commit the crime(s) set forth, and that such probable cause is based on the following facts:

That during the years of 2001 thru 2004, while in the County of Dorchester, State of South Carolina the aforesaid defendant, CHRISTI ARROYO, did commit the offense of **BREACH OF TRUST OVER \$5,000**, in violation of section 16-13-230 of the South Carolina Code of Laws of 1976, as amended. In that while the defendant was the clerk/treasurer for the Town of St. George, the defendant was tasked with disbursement of public funds, and did convert those monies to her own use with the intent to deprive the town of the funds in the following particulars:

1. Arroyo fraudulently opened a credit card account with Bank One, in the name of the Town of St. George in the year 2001. During her employment, Arroyo maintained possession of the three cards that were issued on the account, and made personal charges onto this account. During the monthly billing cycles of Bank One for payments due, Arroyo would draft checks from banking accounts belonging to the Town of St. George for payments onto the Bank One account. Arroyo was also found to have made electronic transfers of funds from banking accounts belonging to the Town of St. George for payments onto the Bank One account.
2. Arroyo charged merchandise at a local Lowes home improvement store and at a local Home Depot home improvement store. These charges correspond to the time frame in which Arroyo was completing home renovations to her home, located at 503 Johnston St., St. George, South Carolina. Further, inspection of these invoices show that the items purchased were delivered to her home address. Interviews conducted with the contractor hired by Arroyo to complete the renovations, support the evidence that these items were fraudulently purchased. The investigation has shown these charge accounts were paid for with funds from the Town of St. George.
3. Investigative efforts revealed that Arroyo used two different banking accounts, which belonged to the Town of St. George, to make payments of the above referenced charges. Those accounts being a Town of St. George operating account and an account for the Water and Sewer department.

H898216

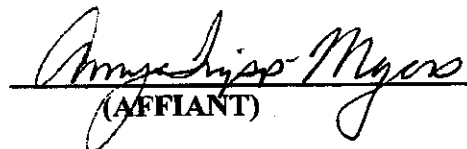
Warrant Affidavit
Defendant - Christi Arroyo

4. Arroyo was interviewed by Agent Tripp-Myers and admitted her guilt and confessed to the above actions, which further supports probable cause for this warrant.
5. The investigation has and can firmly support that the Town of St. George experienced a financial loss in excess of \$100,000.00 based on the actions of Arroyo.

Based on the investigative efforts, the facts have established probable cause.

Sworn to and Subscribed before me
this 27 day of June
2005.


Signature of Judge


(AFFIANT)

Address: 6435 Fain St., Suite A
N. Charleston, SC 29406
Phone: 843 - 569-7593

ARREST WARRANT

H- 898217

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of
DORCHESTER
THE STATE
against

ARROYO, CHRISTI

Address: 503 JOHNSTON ST.
ST. GEORGE SC 29477-0000Phone: _____ SSN: _____
Sex: _____ Race: _____ Height: _____ Weight: 000
DL State: SC DL#: _____
DOB: _____ Agency ORI#: SLEDProsecuting Agency: _____
Prosecuting Officer: TRIPP-MYERS, AMY, SL
Offense: MIS. of Public Officer

Code/Ordinance Sec. 8-1-80

This warrant is CERTIFIED FOR SERVICE in the
☐ County/ ☐ Municipality ofThe accused
is to be arrested and brought before me to be
dealt with according to law.

Signature of Judge

Date:

RETURN

A copy of this arrest warrant was delivered to
defendant CHRISTI ARROYO
on 6/27/05

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of
DORCHESTER

AFFIDAVIT

Personally appeared before me the affiant TRIPP-MYERS, AMY, SLED who
being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant ARROYO, CHRISTI
did within this county and state on between 8/01/2001 and 9-01-01 violate the criminal laws of the
State of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☐ County/ ☐ Municipality of _____)
in the following particulars: VIOLATION SECTION 8-1-80 OF SC CODE OF LAWS
DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Misconduct of a Public Officer

I further state that there is probable cause to believe that the defendant named above did commit
the crime set forth and that probable cause is based on the following facts:

SEE ATTACHED AFFIDAVIT

ALL OF WHICH IS AGAINST THE PEACE AND DIGNITY OF THE STATE
OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND WILL BE MORE FULLY DESCRIBED IN THE 1976
CODE OF LAW. Signature of Affiant Amy Tripp-Myers

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☐ County/ ☐ Municipality of
DORCHESTER

Affiant's Address

Affiant's Telephone

ARREST WARRANT

TO ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THIS STATE OR MUNICIPALITY OR ANY CONSTABLE OF THIS COUNTY:

appearing from the above affidavit that there are reasonable grounds to believe that
on between 8/01/2001 and 9-01-01 defendant ARROYO, CHRISTI
did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of _____)
☐ County/ ☐ Municipality of _____) as set forth below:
DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: VIOLATION SECTION 8-1-80 OF SC CODE OF LAWS
Misconduct of a Public Officer

Having found probable cause and the above affiant having sworn before me, you are empowered and directed to arrest the said
defendant and bring him or her before me forthwith to be dealt with according to law. A copy of this Arrest Warrant shall be delivered to
the defendant at the time of its execution, or as soon thereafter as is practicable.

Sworn to and subscribed before me

on 6-27-05

Signature of Issuing Judge

Judge Code:

ORIGINAL

Judge's Address 212 Deming Way, Box 16
Summerville SC 29483-0000Judge's Telephone (843) 832-0370Issuing Court: ☒ Magistrate ☐ Municipal ☐ Circuit

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF DORCHESTER

AFFIDAVIT

SLED Case # 31040085

Personally appeared before me, a magistrate of this County, one S/A Amy Tripp (SLED) who, first
being duly sworn, deposes and says that,

CHRISTI ARROYO

did within this County and State on or about the 3rd day of January
2004, did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE

MISCONDUCT OF A PUBLIC OFFICER

8-1-80

The affiant states there is probable cause to believe that the defendant named above did commit the
crime(s) set forth, and that such probable cause is based on the following facts:

That during the years of 2001 thru 2004, while in the County of Dorchester, State of South Carolina the aforesaid defendant, CHRISTI ARROYO, did commit the offense of **MISCONDUCT OF A PUBLIC OFFICER**, in violation of section 8-1-80 of the South Carolina Code of Laws Of 1976, as ammended. In that while the defendant was the clerk/treasurer for the Town of St. George, the defendant did commit official misconduct by violating the laws and responsibilities entrusted to her through her job duties in the following particulars:

1. Arroyo applied for and was hired as the clerk/treasurer for the Town of St. George, which is a position of public trust and a position within the municipal government of St. George.
2. During her employment, Arroyo embezzled public funds and converted those funds to her personal use. The funds were embezzled through the use of fraudulent checks and fraudulent credit card purchases. This fraudulent activity outlined her misconduct while holding the position of clerk/treasurer, further breaking the public trust entrusted to her.
3. The investigation has revealed that the Town of St. George experienced a financial loss in excess of \$100,000.00 based on the actions of Arroyo.

Based on the investigative efforts, the facts have established probable cause,

Sworn to and Subscribed before me
this 27 day of June
2005.

[Signature]
Signature of Judge

[Signature]
(AFFIANT)

Address: 6435 Fain St., Suite A
N. Charleston, SC 29406
Phone: 843 - 569-7593